

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/681,575

Applicant(s)

QUINN, WILLIAM JOSEPH

Examiner

Dwin M Craig

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/23/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-50.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 4/4/05.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**KEVIN J. TESKA  
SUPERVISORY  
PATENT EXAMINER**

**DETAILED ACTION**

**And**

**NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE**

1. **Claims 1-50** have been allowed.

**Drawings**

2. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because the current drawings are informal, *the drawings are marked up by hand and the lines are too thin*. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

**Reasons for Allowance**

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The following limitation, in combination with other limitation is allowable over the prior art, *wherein said defining includes generating a function block applied to control a target system that cannot be controlled by applying Cause and Effect logic.*"

Further, where the Applicant argued on page 14 of the 12/23/2004 response, *"Klapper et al. does not describe or suggest a method for Cause and Effect logic as recited in Claim 1. Specifically, Klapper et al. do(es) not describe or suggest a formal methodology for specification of functional requirements for a target system*

*based upon Cause and Effect notation and function blocks where defining includes generating a function block applied to control target system(s) sic that cannot be controlled by applying the Cause and Effect notation.”*

The combination of instant amendments to independent claims 1, 24 and 47 and the arguments put forth on pages 14 and 15 of the 12/23/2004 response have been persuasive and the Examiner withdraws the earlier 35 U.S.C. 102(a) rejections of those claims.

**3.1** Dependent claims 2-23, 25-46 and 48-50 are allowed as they depend upon an allowed base claim.

**3.2** Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

#### **Conclusion**

**4.** The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**“Cause-effect graphing analysis and validation requirements”** by Khenaidoo Nursimulu and Robert L. Probert discloses *Cause-Effect* graphing methodologies.

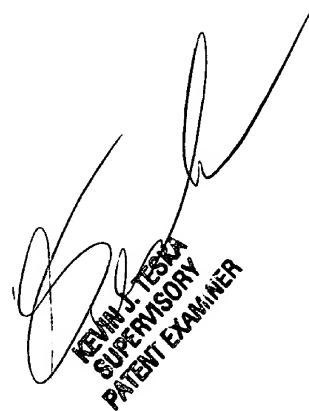
**“On the experience of using cause-effect graphs for software specification and test generation”** by Amit Paradkar discloses methods of using *cause-effect graphs*.

**4.1** Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dwin M Craig whose telephone number is (571) 272-3710. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached on (571)272-3716. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DMC



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